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INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

DATE OF
INFORMATION 1953

SUBJECT Economic - Coal and coke

DATE DIST. 2 APR 1954

HOW
PUBLISHED Daily newspapers and monthly periodicalWHERE
PUBLISHED USSR

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE
PUBLISHED 8 Sep-7 Oct 1953

LANGUAGE Russian

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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TASKS OF USSR COAL AND COKE INDUSTRIESWINTER DIFFICULTIES OF GEORGIAN MINES -- Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 7 Oct 53

In winter, work is interrupted at the mines imeni Lenin and imeni Stalin of the Tkibulugol' Trust, where the hydraulic method of backfilling is used. This interruption is caused mainly by defective quarry organization. The productivity of the mixing tanks is low, which has prevented the preparation of the necessary supply of hydraulic backfilling materials for the mines. In the winter of 1952, four large faces of the Mine imeni Lenin were inactive for this reason. During 1953, the installation of a more efficient mixing tank was begun in this mine. The work is being done by the Office of Capital Construction of the Tkibulugol' Trust, and the plan called for its completion in the second quarter. Up to the present, however, it has not been more than 40 percent completed.

The problem of supplying the mines with timbers in winter has not been solved. The timber-storage area is located 15 kilometers from the mines and it is difficult to deliver over so great a distance in winter. The Department of Technical Supplies of the Tkibulugol' Trust has not yet found time to obtain a supply of mine timbers and to store them near the mines. In 1952, the Mine imeni Stalin failed to deliver more than 5,000 tons of coal because of a lack of mine timbers. To avoid repetitions of this failure, storage areas must be prepared on the grounds of the mines and filled with an adequate supply of mine timbers.

DONBASS MINE MODEL OF HIGH-SPEED SHAFT SINKING -- Moscow, Master Uglya, Oct 53

Increased speed in sinking vertical shafts is one of the most important conditions for accelerating the speed of mine construction. An order of the ministry calls the attention of the directors of construction organizations to the experience of Donbass Vetka-Glubokaya Mine, where 86 meters of shaft were completed in one month.

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The following factors contributed toward the performance of the Vetka-Glubokaya Mine: All equipment and machines necessary for shaft sinking were supplied to the mine; the constructors adopted the cycle work schedule and carefully selected the length and diameter of bore holes for explosives; water drainage was correctly organized; below the water-bearing levels, water-collecting installations were set up and the water was pumped directly to the surface by horizontal pumps, making it possible to keep the face free of drainage devices.

The directors of construction organizations were asked to publicize the experience of the shaft sinkers of the Vetka-Glubokaya Mine and to work out necessary measures for converting selected shafts to the cycle work schedule.

BRIQUETTING TO SALVAGE COAL FINES -- Frunze, Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, 8 Sep 53

Central Asia yields lignite to a great extent. This lignite is very friable, splits rapidly, and consists largely of fines which can be burned only in especially adapted fireboxes. In ordinary furnaces only a small part of the coal burns, while the rest falls through the grate. If the coal fines are briquetted, however, they can be used not only in electric power stations and plants but also for domestic purposes.

The Ministry of Local and Fuel Industry can organize briquetting plants -- for example, in Kyzyl-Kiya -- where thousands of tons of coal dust lie on dump heaps and railroad transportation is convenient.

Lignite briquettes are high-grade fuel for power purposes, they can be used for gasification, and their high tar content makes them an excellent raw material for technological processing.

KUZBASS COAL-CLEANING PLANT IMPROVES PERFORMANCE -- Moscow, Master Uglya, Oct 53

The coal-cleaning plant in the largest shaft of the Prokop'yevsk Mine imeni Stalin is fulfilling the monthly plan ahead of schedule. The plant cleans coal by the pneumatic method, which is less productive than wet cleaning. However, by steadily improving its equipment, the plant is achieving high efficiency indexes. Selection of samples at the plant formerly was manual, but is now mechanical. Coal-dust removal has been considerably improved by the introduction of cyclone blowers to replace outmoded devices. The pneumatic jigging machines have also been improved.

RAILROADS FAIL TO SHIP COKE -- Moscow, Izvestiya, 24 Sep 53

The Kemerovo Coke By-Products Plant is supplying a great number of enterprises of various ministries with its products. Workers of the plant are striving to deliver more coke to the country, but the railroads unfortunately are doing a poor job of transporting prepared products.

The Tomsk Railroad fails regularly to supply cars for shipping coke. As a result, 12,000 tons accumulated on plant branch lines in August and 4,000 tons in 10 days of September. Dumping on plant branch lines causes the coke to break up and to deteriorate (up to 20 percent); therefore, it is converted from raw material for metallurgy to fuel. This makes it necessary to resort to the coke. In August and 10 days of September the plant incurred about 350,000 rubles' worth of losses, and 104 enterprises in various parts of the country lacked coke because of the inadequate supply of railroad cars to the plant. The Ministry of Railways USSR must obligate the Tomsk Railroad to improve the shipping of coke.

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